Met Office

November 2016

The averaging period used for the following assessment was 1981-2010.

UK Overview

At the start of November the weather was quiet and mild in the south, but cold bright weather soon spread from the north. There was another cold northerly incursion between the 5th and 7th, which was followed by some snow even for many low-lying parts of Scotland and northern England on the 8th and 9th. It was generally unsettled between the 9th and 21st, though with several bright showery days. Storm Angus brought wet and windy weather and problems with flooding in the south-west, and a further depression brought heavy rain and more widespread flooding on the 21st. High pressure brought generally dry, settled and cold weather from the 23rd onwards, with frequent sunny spells for most parts.

The UK mean temperature was 4.9 °C, which is 1.3 °C below the 1981-2010 long-term average. The negative temperature anomaly was generally larger by night than by day, and largest in Scotland. Rainfall was 86% of average, and it was a dry November over much of Wales, Northern Ireland and central and western Scotland, but most of England had near or rather above average rainfall. Sunshine was generally above average except in Cornwall, and it was particularly anomalously sunny in north-west Scotland. With 131% of average, it was the third sunniest November in a series from 1929.

The UK monthly extremes were as follows: A maximum temperature of 19.0 °C was recorded at Cardinham (Cornwall) on the 1st. A minimum temperature of -12.1 °C was recorded at Braemar (Aberdeenshire) on the 21st. In the 24 hours ending at 0900 GMT on the 22nd, 90.0 mm of rain fell at Bethesda (Gwynedd). A wind gust of 73 knots (84 mph) was recorded at Shawbury (Shropshire) on the 17th. A snow depth of 13 cm was reported at Copley (County Durham) on the 9th.

Weather impacts

After a quiet first week, on the 8th/9th snow caused hazardous driving conditions across northern England, with around 45 road traffic collisions in the area linked to the snow and ice. Leeds Bradford Airport was closed for a time to clear snow from the runway.

On the 17th, a localised area of heavy rain and very gusty winds caused serious damage and disruption mainly across central Wales and Shropshire. There were reports of a tornado near Aberystwyth with damage to roofs and caravans around the town, and Dyfed Powys Police reported that several roads were closed due to fallen trees. Western Power reported around 600 properties without power in mid-Wales. Elsewhere, there was disruption reported across Shropshire, the Midlands and Lincolnshire during the afternoon, with fallen trees blocking roads and disruption to rail services due to debris. Shropshire Council's roads teams described the tree damage as being as bad as anything they'd ever seen.

On the 19th, as Storm Angus approached from the south-west, Eurotunnel and channel ferry services were disrupted due to weather. There were reports of damage to roofs and scaffolding across Kent and East Sussex, flooding was reported on the A20 and A2 in Kent, and some local roads were closed due to flooding and fallen trees. In addition, 2,200 properties lost power for a time. On the 20th, Devon and Cornwall Police declared a major incident at 4.15am due to flooding at the Mill on the Mole residential caravan park. There were also several road closures reported across Devon. South Wales FRS received 133 flooding-related calls in a 6-hour period during the morning, with some requiring people to be rescued from cars and properties.

Another depression brought persistent rain on the 21st and 22nd. Great Western Railway advised against travel to western England and south Wales later on the 21st, with the line between Bristol and Taunton flooded. A ferry that left Rosslare on Monday morning, with 146 on board, was unable to dock at Fishguard until Tuesday. Localised flooding caused disruption in Devon, Bristol, Wiltshire, Dorset, Sussex, Kent, Surrey and south Wales. Flooding also affected parts of north Wales, and a tree fell onto overhead tram power cables in Greater Manchester. Many train services were disrupted by flooding in parts of northern England, with all rail lines to Rochdale blocked and no trains running between Sheffield and New Mill.

The satellite image below shows snow cover across the hills of Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England on 23 November 2016. Image copyright Met Office / NASA.

England diary of highlights

November began quiet and mild in the south, but colder air quickly spread southwards via a slack northerly airflow. Northerly winds were frequent in the first third of the month, and there was some snow in the north on the 9th. The weather turned more unsettled around mid-month. Storm Angus brought wet and windy weather and flooding especially to the south-west on the 19th/20th, and another system on the 21st brought rain and flooding further north. The month ended with high pressure in charge, and it was mostly dry and sunny and increasingly cold.

The mean temperature for November was 1.1 °C below the 1981-2010 long-term average. Rainfall was generally near or rather above average, with 112% of average overall, and locally in north Northumberland there was more than twice the normal rainfall. Sunshine was generally above normal except in Cornwall, with 126% of average overall.

1st to 7th

Extensive fog cleared by late afternoon on the 1st, eventually leaving it sunny over the north and cloudy with patchy rain and drizzle in the south. It was frosty and foggy to start the 2nd in some places, but the fog cleared to leave a sunny day almost everywhere. The 3rd started frosty again for many places, but cloud and rain spread east from late afternoon. The 4th was increasingly wet with showers in the north and rain across the south. After an early frost in places on the 5th, it turned colder, with showers confined to coastal parts and sunshine for many; it was increasingly windy with a gust of 52 mph at Loftus (Cleveland). Another frosty start for many on the 6th but with east coast showers, wintry on high ground, alongside 54 mph winds at Donna Nook (Lincolnshire). It was sunny but cool across southern counties on the 7th with showers affecting coastal fringes mainly in the east, where they were wintry on high ground.

8th to 11th

A cold day on the 8th turned increasingly wet from the west, with heavy rain later turning to snow in the north. Eastern coastal areas were very wet on the 9th; rain, sleet and snow cleared eastwards followed by showers, some heavy and wintry, with 7 cm of snow recorded at Bingley (Yorkshire). Rain, sleet and snow on the 10th cleared the east coast by lunchtime, leaving widespread showers, some wintry. There was a frosty start in places on the 11th, then generally sunny before clouding over from the west with rain late in the evening.

12th to 18th

Rain over eastern counties cleared away into the afternoon on the 12th to leave a mild and cloudy afternoon. Some fog in places early on the 13th but rain spread south-east reaching parts of the Midlands by dusk. Morning rain over the south-east on the 14th cleared away leaving a lot of cloud and further outbreaks of rain. A mild but showery day on the 15th with 17 °C recorded in the south-east. The 16th was another mild day, with scattered showers and sunny spells. Squally showers were widespread on the 17th with thunderstorms in central and southern areas and a gust of 84 mph at Shawbury (Shropshire), and it turned colder. There was

snow for south Pennine areas on the 18th and wintry showers elsewhere although the Midlands and East Anglia stayed relatively dry.

19th to 22nd

The 19th was another day of sunshine and showers, but the wind strengthened during the afternoon and rain spread into the south-west. Storm Angus moved into southern areas on the 20th and strong winds gusted to 70 mph in exposed coastal areas; there was heavy rain, Exeter Airport (Devon) recording 27mm in one hour which resulted in localised flooding for parts of the south-west, before the storm cleared to leave a brighter afternoon. A wet and windy day for most on the 21st with heavy rain spreading north, and areas of the south-west and north-east experienced more localised flooding with 70 mm at Chillingham Barns (Northumberland) and winds gusting to over 70mph in the north. There were showers or longer spells of rain for many areas on the 22nd and it was breezy along the south coast with the best of any dry weather over central areas.

23rd to 30th

The 23rd was mainly dry, sunny in the far north but mostly cloudy elsewhere, after a foggy start in some eastern and southern areas. Another mainly dry day on the 24th but a cold start in the north with an overnight temperature of -6.3 °C recorded at Shap (Cumbria). Dry again on the 25th with bright or sunny spells. The 26th was a dry and bright day for most parts with fog at first in many southern and eastern areas. The 27th was mainly dry but cloudier, with some patchy rain in the east. It was largely dry and sunny after a widespread frost on the 28th. After another cold start on the 29th a dry day followed with sunny spells. A hard frost on the 30th saw the temperature fall to -9.0 °C at Benson (Oxon) but a dry and sunny day followed.

Wales diary of highlights

November began quiet and anticyclonic with cold air spreading from the north. Cold northerly winds were frequent during the first third of the month. It was unsettled in the third week, and particularly wet and windy on the 20th and 21st, associated with Storm Angus. The month ended cold, dry and sunny with high pressure in charge.

The mean temperature for November was 1.2 °C below the long-term average. Rainfall was below normal except in parts of the east and south, with 73% of average overall. Sunshine was 126% of average, making it the 7th sunniest November in a series from 1929.

1st to 7th

Patchy fog cleared to leave a cloudy day with isolated rain or drizzle in places on the 1st. There was a frosty start in places on the 2nd, followed by a sunny day for most but it was cloudier down the west coast. It started frosty across central southern parts on the 3rd, turning cloudier with rain throughout later. There was a mix of sunshine and showers throughout on the 4th, showers heaviest through the evening in the north-west. The 5th was colder with temperatures struggling to reach 10 °C and showers along western fringes. Cool, northerly winds with showers clipping both Lleyn and Pembrokeshire Peninsulas featured on the 6th with drier, brighter conditions further east turning increasingly showery across Gwynedd later. There was a frosty start in central areas on the 7th with showers clipping Pembrokeshire but it was otherwise cold and dry.

8th to 14th

There was persistent heavy rain across the country on the 8th with 40.8 mm at Aberdaron (Gwynedd). Generally cloudy with frequent showers, wintry on higher ground, on the 9th. It was breezy with sunshine and showers on the 10th. The 11th started cold but sunny, clouding over during the afternoon with rain arriving in the evening. It was cloudy on the 12th with a few isolated showers, but brighter over the north-west. The 13th was generally cloudy in the north with a band of rain moving through in the evening, drier and brighter in the

south. It was cloudy with some light rain in most places throughout the day on the 14th but mild with a maximum of 17.6 °C at Colwyn Bay (Clywd).

15th to 21st

The 15th was a mild but showery day. A band of showers spread south on the 16th from mid-morning with cooler and increasingly windy conditions following. The 17th was a day of sunshine and scattered showers. The 18th was cooler with bands of showers, heaviest in central parts, and brighter further east. The 19th was a day of sunshine and scattered showers , but winds increased and rain spread into southern areas later. There was a wet start on the 20th, associated with Storm Angus, but the rain cleared by late morning to leave a mainly dry and bright day. After a frosty start in the north on the 21st, wind and rain brought over 50 mm of rainfall and winds gusting over 50mph to western parts.

22nd to 30th

The 22nd was a mainly dry and bright day away from the coasts where scattered showers prevailed. It was mainly dry on the 23rd, but cloudy away from the west coast. It was dry from the 24th through to the 26th with some bright or sunny spells. A dry but cloudier day followed on the 27th, with some early morning fog. It was mostly dry and bright with patchy fog on the 28th. The 29th was also dry and sunny for most, after a widespread early frost, rather milder and remaining largely dry. The 30th started very cold with -9.7 °C recorded at Sennybridge (Powys), but a dry and bright day followed.

Scotland diary of highlights

November began cold and bright with some coastal showers, and a light northerly flow. Northerly winds blew frequently for the rest of the first week, followed by snow for some parts early in the second week. The weather was relatively unsettled around mid-month but with many bright showery days. From the 20th onwards the weather was mostly settled and quite cold with numerous dry sunny days.

The mean temperature for November was 1.6°C below the 1981-2010 average, and it was generally colder relative to normal by night than by day. Rainfall was below average except in Aberdeenshire and parts of the south, with 69% of average overall. Sunshine was above average nationwide, especially so in the north-west, with 140% of average, and it was Scotland's sunniest November in a series from 1929.

1st to 7th

It was sunny over most of the country on the 1st but there were frequent showers over the north and west. These showers continued into the 2nd, but it was drier and sunnier elsewhere after a cold start. The 3rd was a wet day but the rain turned more showery in the west later. It turned colder on the 4th with rain in the north-east turning to snow over the Cairngorms, showers elsewhere and windy across the north with 57 mph recorded at Fair Isle. The 5th was cold and showery with sunny spells and increasingly strong winds, 54 mph recorded at Kirkwall (Orkney), the showers turning wintry over high ground. Cool and showery, often wintry across higher ground, on the 6th, with rain across the Borders later. The 7th was cool and cloudy for most with showers feeding into north-eastern areas, but otherwise generally dry.

8th to 14th

It was cold, cloudy, and increasingly wet on the 8th with heavy rain across the north-west turning to snow across the Grampians and 35.4 mm of rain at Harris (Western Isles), and snow briefly also at low levels. After a wet start for much of the country on the 9th, rain, sleet and snow died out inland in the afternoon; Eskdalemuir (Dumfries & Galloway) recorded 3 cm of lying snow. There was a frosty start in places on the 10th, with rain over the east coast clearing away, showers persisting over the west, but it was drier in central parts. There was a cloudy and frosty start to the 11th with rain over the west spreading east during the afternoon with 61 mm at Lagafatar (Ayrshire). It was bright over the east and south on the 12th, cloudier elsewhere with persistent

showers over the west. After a cool and cloudy start to the 13th, patchy rain in places with more general rain, locally heavy, reached all areas by late afternoon. It was bright in the east on the 14th, cloudy elsewhere with rain in the west but mild with a maximum of 14.1 °C at Aboyne (Aberdeenshire).

15th to 20th

It was generally mild on the 15th but increasingly showery, especially across the north-west Highlands. There were widespread showers on the 16th which turned wintry over higher ground and it was also windy throughout with 66 mph recorded at South Uist (Western Isles). A cold, windy day followed on the 17th with frequent wintry showers, but the showers became restricted to western parts later. Sunshine and wintry showers after a cold night on the 18th with -6.7 °C recorded at Loch Glascarnoch (Highland). The 19th had sunshine and showers, the showers wintry on high ground. The 20th had a cold clear start with freezing fog lingering in places but a mainly dry and bright day followed.

21st to 30th

A very cold start for many areas on the 21st with a minimum of -12.1 °C at Braemar (Aberdeenshire), but a dry and bright day followed, albeit with rain edging into southern areas later in the day. There was a damp start on the 22nd but the rain cleared from eastern and central areas during the morning leaving scattered showers. A cold start on the 23rd but this was followed by a dry and sunny day. A cold and frosty start for most on the 24th followed by a dry and sunny day but cloudier in the far north with scattered showers in the Northern Isles. It was cold again on the 25th with widespread frost at first but milder in the west and far north with some patchy rain. The 26th was a dry day for most areas but there was some rain at times in the north. It was dry for most places on the 27th apart from some patchy rain in the east. It remained largely dry on the 28th but with scattered showers across northern parts. Patchy rain spread from the north-west on the 29th and it was windy in the north-west Highlands. The 30th was mild but cloudy and mainly dry.

Northern Ireland diary of highlights

November began dry, bright and quite cold with high pressure in charge and a weak northerly flow. Cold and quiet weather remained frequent during the month, especially from the 20th onwards, although there was an unsettled spell mid-month.

The mean temperature for November was 1.3 °C below the long-term average. It was a dry November except in the north-west, with 73% of average rainfall. Sunshine was 141% of average, making it the equal-third sunniest November in a series from 1929.

1st to 7th

The 1st was a sunny day, though with a few showers over the north. It was cloudy with the occasional spot of rain on the 2nd. It stayed cool on the 3rd with rain throughout the morning, turning showery later. The 4th was cool with frequent showers and occasional sunny spells. The 5th was another day of sunshine and showers, and again quite cold. There were scattered showers mostly overnight, turning mainly sunny but remaining cold on the 6th. The 7th started cold with -5.3 °C at Katesbridge (County Down) with showers across the north, and it turned generally cloudier later.

8th to 15th

Heavy rain on the 8th with 36.2 mm recorded at Ballypatrick Forest (Antrim), turning to sleet and snow over higher ground. It was cloudy with frequent showers on the 9th. The 10th was a breezy day with sunshine and showers. There was a cold start on the 11th, turning cloudy with rain spreading to all parts by the evening. It was cloudy with showers on the 12th. Generally cloudy on the 13th, with rain clearing through by early evening. It was cloudy with some outbreaks of light rain in the north on the 14th but mild with a maximum of

16.7 °C at Murlough (County Down). Another mild day on the 15th, generally dry with sunny spells before turning showery later.

16th to 20th

It was much cooler on the 16th with brighter spells, but showers throughout especially in the west. It was colder and increasingly showery on the 17th, and the showers turned wintry over higher ground. The 18th was similar, with widespread showers heaviest across the north. The 19th was a day of sunshine and scattered showers. The 20th had a cold start with freezing fog lingering in places, but it was otherwise a bright day with isolated showers in the west.

21st to 30th

The 21st had another frosty start with minimum temperatures as low as -5 °C but a dry and bright day followed. The 22nd was a breezy day with sunshine and scattered showers and a gust of 59 mph at Orlock Head (County Down) but it was milder. There was a cold start for some parts on the 23rd but a mainly dry and bright day followed. A cold start again on the 24th, with a minimum of -7.5 °C at Katesbridge (County Down), followed by another dry and bright day for most but with some fog patches. It was dry and cold again on the 25th with widespread freezing fog especially in the south and west. The 26th was overcast with widespread fog, clearing slightly for a time during the afternoon. There was a foggy start for many areas on the 27th, the fog clearing later leaving a dry but cloudy day. It was dry but cloudy again on the 28th. Slightly milder and cloudier on the 29th but it stayed mostly dry. The 30th was dry with sunny spells.

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